

Minutes
Joint Committee of BOE and BOH
April 12, 2004
10:00-3:00pm
James Monroe Building, PDC Room #2

Purpose: To study the feasibility of developing education curriculum for proper nutrition and exercise for students in grades k-12.

Board of Education Members Present: Susan Genovese and Scott Goodman

Board of Health Members Present: Sheila Elliott, Pharm.D. and Hunter Gaunt, Jr., MD
Board of Health Members Absent: Julie Beales, M.D.

Virginia Department of Health and Department of Education Staff Present: Joe Hilbert, Carol Pollock, Maureen B. Hjar, Vanessa Wigand, Gwen Smith, Catherine Digilio Grimes, Dan Timberlake, Doug Cox, and Peggy Pavior.

Others present: Chuck DuVal and Joyce Garner

Minutes: Kathy Sergeant, Nutrition Liaison, VDH

The minutes from the March 1, 2004 Joint Committee Meeting were approved.

Joint Committee of the Board of Health and Board of Education Interim Report

The meeting focused on reviewing the Joint Committee's Draft Interim Report. The meeting was an opportunity for members of both boards to ask questions about the report and determine the content of the Interim Report that will be presented to the April meeting of the Board of Health and to the April retreat of the Board of Education.

The following questions and/or comments were made regarding various issues contained in the report.

1. Are schools offering just whole and 2% milk? All schools offer a variety of milk choices. To reduce the selection of whole milk, schools need to market 1% milk and fat free milk as healthy choices.
2. Increase the minimum nutritional content of individual food products from 5% to 10% of selected nutrients. Is the 10% an arbitrary number? The Joint Committee wants to be able to explain the increased percentage rather than say it is an arbitrary number.
3. Should access to vending machines be denied until after the end of the school day, or just until after the last instructional period, or also during evening classes or rehearsals?

4. Pouring rights contracts between soda companies and individual school divisions; what can be done if a contract has already been negotiated? The Joint Committee can make recommendations for new contracts and renewal of pouring rights contracts.

5. Are all students seen at least once a year by a school nurse? Some schools do not have nurses and local health departments are not staffed to assist in this capacity.

6. During parent/teacher conferences could teachers not only provide an academic report, but also a report regarding the child's health status? Classroom teachers do not have the training to review and make comments about an individual student's health report.

7. Comment. There needs to be data collection as to whether the school health curriculum is actually being taught since there is no SOL exam for health. This comment would have to be brought to Dr. DeMary.

8. A school division is mandated to have a School Health Advisory Board. How are the meetings documented and is there discussion regarding the teaching of the health curriculum?

The Joint Committee reviewed the entire Interim Report and suggested changes and deletions for a revised version of the report. In so doing the Joint Committee decided which of the various policy options it wished to present to the full Board of Health and Board of Education. The revised report will be presented to the entire Board of Education meeting April 28 and 29, 2004.